

The Semi-Weekly Messenger.

VOL XXXVII No 89.

WILMINGTON N. C., NOVEMBER 8, 1904.

\$1.00 PER YEAR

PARKER SAYS ISSUE WAS NOT MET BY ROOSEVELT

Democratic Candidate
Answers The President's Statement

CRISIS FACES THE COUNTRY

The Issue Raised by Judge Parker Was: Can the Trusts Purchase the Election? and He Asserts That President Roosevelt in "His Strangely Belated Reply" Has Not Met the Question Raised—An Admission is Almost Made by Roosevelt That Trusts Have Contributed to the Republican Campaign Fund—The President's Pretense of an Answer is a Confession, With a Plea in Avoidance—Judge Parker Asserts That No Money Has Been Received, Directly or Indirectly, From Any Trust for the Democratic Campaign. An Enthusiastic Audience Greeted Judge Parker in the King's County Democratic Club in Brooklyn and Heard His Reply to Roosevelt.

New York, November 5.—Judge Parker in a speech made at a reception given to him by the King county Democratic club in Brooklyn tonight, asserted that the issue "whether the trusts can purchase the election," has not been met by President Roosevelt in his reply to Judge Parker's speech made twelve days ago.

Judge Parker never had a more enthusiastic audience than that in Brooklyn tonight. He had not intended to make a speech tonight until the President issued his statement defending the administration from Judge Parker's charges. The judge was engaged most of the day in preparing his answer. He consulted with officials of the national committee who were in the city and saw few other visitors.

The committee headed by Senator Patrick H. McCarren and Henry A. Metz, chairman of the Kings county club, escorted the candidate to Brooklyn.

He was cheered loudly on the way to the club building, but several hundred policemen opened a driveway for the party. Senator McCarren and Mr. Metz guided the judge and his party to the dining room, where dinner was served. Covers were laid for forty-five persons, the other guests being members of the reception committee and directors of the club. The courses were hurried through and at 9 o'clock the judge was escorted to a rostrum in the main reception room of the club. He was introduced by Mr. Metz, who called attention to the fact that Tilden and Cleveland had made their final speeches in their campaigns in Brooklyn. Kings county will give you as great majorities as it gave them," he said, "and as Kings county goes, so goes the state and so goes the nation."

Before taking up his manuscript, Judge Parker said: "This is the last opportunity, before the election, I will have to look upon so considerable a number of Democrats at one time. It gives me pleasure to be able to say that the outlook is very promising tonight. We have had a very hard task fixing the fences, but those in touch with the situation, realize that the party is in better condition than it has been for a number of years."

Judge Parker then answered President Roosevelt's statements as follows: "The purpose of my address tonight is to call attention to the fact that in his strangely belated reply to my speech twelve days ago, the President has not met the issue created since the platforms were adopted, namely: Can the trusts purchase the election?"

Whatever results may follow from his address, the campaign fund cannot be interfered with. It has been raised.

My first utterance on the subject is to be found in an address delivered on the 24th day of October, in which I said: "Many years have passed since my active participation in politics. In the meantime a startling change has taken place in the method of conducting campaigns, a change not for the

better, but for the worse, a change that has introduced debasing and corrupt methods, which threaten the integrity of our government, degrading it to a republic in form, but not a republic in substance, no longer a government of the people, by the people, for the people, but a government whose officers are practically chosen by a handful of corporate managers who levy upon the assets of the stockholders they represent such sums of money as they deem requisite to place the conduct of the government in such hands as they consider best for their private interests.

"Some of the enterprises which have unduly thrived through favoritism, and which have been permitted by statute to indirectly levy tribute upon the people, have in the course of time become so rich and strong that they can and do contribute vast sums, when it is made clear that it will be an advantage to them, and they contribute upon the promise, direct or implied, that they shall be permitted to continue to tax the people for their own benefit.

"Upon such promises contributions have been not infrequently made in such large measure as to induce and procure colonization, repealing and bribery in doubtful states.

"This has built up a class of voters known to local leaders as 'floaters,' a class so numerous that party canvassers allot to them in their canvasses a separate column headed with that name. This condition is recognized by party workers, local, state and national. They are no longer shocked by it. It has become so prevalent that they are becoming hardened to it.

"The excessively protected interests, which formerly poured out their treasure in order to continue existing and procure the passage of new laws permitting its further accumulation, have been joined by the combinations popularly called trusts. Their plan is to perpetuate the present administration. Such of the combinations or trusts as do not profit by the aid of the tariff secure their profits by the exercise of monopolies. Hence their officers are opposed to the enforcement of law as against them.

"When such forces unite to furnish the money which they are promised will control the election, their purpose is as clear as noonday. It is to buy protection, to purchase four years more of profit by tariff taxation and four years more of extortion, from the public by means of monopoly.

"Political contributions by corporations and trusts mean corruption. They cannot be honest. Merely business interests are moved by merely business considerations. A corporation subscribes to a political party only because the corporation expects that party, through its control of public offices, executive or legislative—to do something for the benefit of the corporation, or to refrain from doing something to its injury. No other motive can be imagined. In the nature of things no other motive can exist. The relations established mean the expectation, if not an agreement, actual or implied, that governmental action is to be influenced by and for corporation interests. No sophistry can give any other aspect to the transaction in the minds of reasonable men. Let the defenders of the practice, if it has defenders, answer these questions:

"Why do corporations and trusts subscribe to political campaigns?"

"What would a trust think of a party which, after accepting from the trust a campaign contribution of \$500,000, should permit the party's representative in office, to take action inimical to the trusts?"

"Would the public interests be safe in the hands of a party, the greater part of whose campaign funds had been contributed by corporations and trusts?"

"If the public welfare and the interests of subscribing corporation or trust should conflict, which would likely be protected?"

"The scheme of our government opposes favoritism, but in its administration there has been much of it. Indeed, it has been growing with such rapidity in recent years that these few that have enjoyed favors, contributed either direct by statute or indirectly by the non-prosecution of violations of law, represent, control and are possessed of many hundreds of millions of dollars. These interests have decided to attempt to continue the present administration in power. Their representatives scolded about the President for some months, and thus contributed their part toward the effort which was assiduously made to satisfy the country that the trusts were opposed to the present administration.

"Whether there were real difficulties between these great powers and the administration, difficulties which have since been settled to the satisfaction of all parties concerned or whether there were no difficulties at all, the fact remains that the trusts are not now opposed to the continuance of the present administration. On the contrary, it is common knowledge that they have determined

to furnish a sum of money to the Republican national committee as it is hoped will secure the 'floaters' in the doubtful states for the Republican ticket. Such an attempt constitutes both a menace and a challenge to every patriotic and law abiding person in this country, a challenge which ought to be accepted. The question ought to be settled now whether the 'floaters' and illegal combinations can together control an election in this country. Such a contest means on one side vast sums of money and every man with an itching palm. It ought to array every honest, independent and patriotic citizen on the other side."

You have learned from its reading that the purpose of that address was to warn the people against the corruption of the electorate by tariff-bred trusts and other monopolies. It contained no criticism of the President. It simply called attention to a notorious and offensive situation—a situation which presented to my mind the greatest of moral issues of the campaign, yes, of many campaigns. If he had said, on the day after the delivery of my address, after the consultation about it, which he and Senator Knox had: 'Yes, I never thought of it before, but Parker is right. Why should a trust take money out of the treasury, money belonging to its stockholders, consisting of women and children, as well as men of both parties, unless it purposes to get something in return, something which its officers that regard it as their own equivalent for the money taken out of the treasury? Now, he is right, and I am going to stop it. Perhaps the national committee cannot pay back the money contributed in this way, that they have already expended, but there shall be no more such contributions. I will join Parker in his effort to protect the lot of the honest citizen from being over-ridden by merchandise barons.'

If he had said that, that would have sounded like the Roosevelt we once knew. And if he had followed it by acts in execution of his words, it would have been of far less consequence. The people which one of us should be elected, than it is now. But he did not do it. He shut his eyes to what was going on and since that time there has been the frequent meeting of the trusts' magnates, but the trusts have been pooling the treasury and the more freely and all the more plentifully, because of the attitude taken by me, and that it is true I have enforced from day to day.

The President does not deny these contributions now. This is what he says:

"That contributions have been made to the Republican committee as contributions have been made to the Democratic committee is not the question at issue. Mr. Parker's assertion is in effect that such contributions have been made by the trusts, either directly or indirectly, on the part of the recipients."

That is the only paragraph which touches either directly or indirectly on the question as to whether the trusts have made contributions to the Republican campaign fund. It is almost in terms an admission that the trusts have contributed to the Republican fund. In coupling the Democratic campaign fund with the Republican campaign fund, the President attempted to go associate the two, that a denial of his assertion could not be made without implicating the Democratic committee. He is in a position to know what contributions have been made to the Republican national committee by the trusts, for he has been told by the trusts, he could easily have said so. He cannot say so. He has waited until the closing hour of the campaign to make easier the pretense of an answer. But it is not an answer. It is a confession with a plea in avoidance addressed to a kindly and generous people.

If there is any doubt of the source of this great campaign fund, is no longer a matter of suspicion, for Mr. Elihu Root, the former secretary of war, frankly admitted last night that trusts and corporations were heavy contributors. He denied only that the total amount of the trust or utilized was as large as in previous years. Moreover the Republican candidate himself denies only that definite immunity has been promised trusts for their assistance. He declares that he is merely to give them a square deal, and the terms may be interpreted not by the law of the land but by himself. It is plain that when the time shall come to determine what a "square deal" between the government of the United States and the contributing trusts really is the beneficiary of the generosity of the latter must either recognize the service, or confess itself guilty of base ingratitude.

The President's argument and his position seem to justify such contributions, and the inference he would have the public draw from his utterance, is of course, that contributions have been made by the trusts to the Democratic national committee. At this time, therefore, I am justified in making a statement which I had not intended to make.

I requested the Democratic national campaign managers, Mr. President, that they should not receive directly or indirectly from any trust, money for campaign purposes. I notified them that I proposed if elected, to enter upon the discharge of the duties of that great office, unhampered by any obligation to interests or to men.

I said to them I would rather be defeated than to be elected in the effort to accomplish reforms that are sorely needed. And I am advised by them my request has been scrupulously respected.

Instead of co-operating with me in checking this monstrous evil which seriously threatens the liberties of our people you have taken into consultation your late attorney general, and from that consultation, he came out to make an attack on me for venturing to criticize the attempt of the trusts to control the election. He did not answer the charges or attempt to. He did attempt to divert public attention. I regret to say to you that it then seemed apparent to me, Mr. President, that you regarded the election of more importance than the checking of this evil.

Later I called attention to events

M'CUE GUILTY

Verdict of Jury Was
Murder in The First Degree.

DEATH PENALTY

The Jury Deliberated Less Than Half an Hour—Counsel for Defense Laid the Foundation for Seeking a New Trial by Moving to Set the Verdict Aside—Arguments on This Motion Will Be Heard Next Wednesday, and if Overruled, the Case No Doubt Will Go to the Court of Appeals—The Accused Received the Sentence Calmly, But Later Broke Down—History of the Crime for Which McCue Was Tried.

Charlottesville, Va., November 5.—J. Samuel McCue, for four years mayor of Charlottesville was found guilty today of the murder of his wife, Fanny McCue, on Sunday night September 4th, last. The verdict was murder in the first degree, which carries with it the death penalty. The jury deliberated less than half an hour.

A dead silence prevailed in the court room when the jury filed back into the chamber to announce the fate of the accused. The crowd that filled the court room remained until the jury came in. Mr. McCue had grown nervous as Mr. Gilmer, the commonwealth's attorney, was closing and the suspense while waiting the jury's verdict was a severe strain, but he held up, occasionally taking a testament from his pocket and reading a passage or two.

When asked to stand up to hear the verdict, he arose calmly and with set features heard the words that sent him back to prison, condemned to the severest penalty of the law.

It was when relaxation came during a half hour's interim while his attorneys conferred as to their motion for a new trial that McCue showed emotion. His little daughter Ruby climbed on his lap, her eyes reddened by weeping, while there also clung to his side two other small children. Great tears streamed down his cheeks.

Surrounding the group were relatives who scarcely knew what to say to cheer the condemned man. The verdict was received in silence by the throng which literally obeyed the court's injunction that there must be no demonstration.

Counsel for the defense moved that the verdict be set aside on the ground that the jurors had read newspapers.

The court called the jurors to the witness stand one by one and questioned them under oath as to whether they had read the newspapers. As a whole they said they had not been influenced by anything they had read. The motion will be argued later.

As McCue left the court house to go to jail, accompanied by four guards, a large crowd was standing on the outside, but there was no untoward act.

When court was opened this morning, Commonwealth's Attorney Gilmer resumed his closing address to the jury. The exhibits, reminders of the tragedy, were once more brought into court.

Mr. Gilmer closed at 11:09 a. m., when Judge Morris placed the case in the hands of the jury. The verdict was rendered at 11:34 a. m.

The verdict came as a climax to one of the most important trials that has been conducted in the state of Virginia in recent years. Nong has aroused deeper interest or been more closely followed by the people. A large number of witnesses were heard and a great amount of testimony given and over three days were consumed in arguments. The accused was defended by an array of counsel—Messrs. Lee and Coleman of Lynchburg, and Sinclair and Walker and E. O. McCue of this city.

The commonwealth was represented by Captain Woods, commonwealth attorney for this county, Mr. Gilmer, commonwealth's attorney for the city and Commonwealth Attorney Ker of Staunton.

Every inch of ground was fought over. George W. Morris, judge of the corporation court, presided.

One particularly sad feature of the trial was the fact that McCue had for years been a lawyer at the bar before which he was tried and convicted, and had been on friendly relations with most of those identified with the trial.

The jury evinced the greatest interest, frequently questioning witnesses. The foreman shook hands with the

prisoner and relatives that surrounded him before he was taken to jail.

The crime for which the former mayor was tried and convicted occurred on the night of September 4th. Mr. and Mrs. McCue had gone to church, returning home about 9 p. m. Shortly afterward, Mrs. McCue's dead body, clad in a night robe, was found in a bath tub, filled with water. Mr. McCue told those who came in that some one had entered the house upon their return from church; that he had been knocked senseless and his wife probably killed. An investigation led to the arrest on the charge of murder of the man who only four days before had retired from the highest office in the city.

Mrs. McCue had received the contents of a shotgun in her breast, a sufficient wound to cause instant death, but in addition she had been struck a heavy blow on the head cutting an ear nearly in two.

Throughout his trouble McCue had the support of his brothers.

The court room has been crowded from the outset of the trial. During the last few days it has been jammed, with the space in the gallery reserved for the women filled with some of the women eating their lunches in their seats during mid-day recess.

Only once or twice was there any attempt at applause in the court room. Judge Morris prevented a repetition by threatening to send any one to jail found making a demonstration.

Another great legal battle will be waged in an effort to save ex-Mayor McCue from the death penalty. His lawyers promptly laid the foundation for seeking a new trial by moving to set the verdict aside, setting forth as grounds among other things the statement made by Captain Woods that he had refused a large fee as well as the allegation that jurors had read newspapers. Arguments will be heard by Judge Morris next Wednesday on the motion and should he overrule it, the case no doubt will be carried to the court of appeals. The jurors plainly showed the effects of the strain that they have undergone and a number were scarcely able to restrain their emotions when they were discharged. It is said that one of the jurors asked the other members of the jury to join him in prayer while in the jury room and one of the jurors said he had hoped and prayed that some evidence might have been adduced to permit him to render a different verdict. The jury was unanimous the moment the members retired to the jury room.

McCue said to one of the jurors who shook hands with him after the adjournment of court that the verdict was an unjust one, at the same time protesting his innocence.

IMPORTANT MATTERS.

To Come Before Aldermen Tomorrow Night—The Establishing of a Public Library to Be Considered.

The regular monthly meeting of the board of aldermen will take place on Monday night and there are a number of important matters to come up.

From present prospects the board will have a lengthy meeting. As stated in another column, one of the important matters is the establishment of a park. Another matter that is to come up is the ordinance introduced at the last meeting of the board relative to requiring any party tearing up a street not only to put it back down in a good manner, but if at the end of 60 days it should be in bad condition on account of having been torn up, then the party is to have the same repaired again. This ordinance is one that should be passed by all means.

The ladies of the North Carolina Sorosis have a long petition that they will present to the board Monday night in regard to assisting them in establishing a public library. As stated before, it is a shame that Wilmington has not got a public library of some description even though it is a very small one. One of the principal things in establishing a public library is a suitable room and one could easily be secured in the city hall and with very little expense would be required in making it suitable for this purpose. The room referred to is the large room in the city hall facing Second street and on the left side. This room is now used by the board of audit and finance, a body composed of six members counting the clerk. The Mayor's private office, is amply sufficient for two offices and the board of audit and finance office would be using half of the Mayor's office, by occupying more room than they now really use. The present board of audit and finance office will be fine for a library. The room is well lighted and heated by steam. It is not believed that the members of the board of audit and finance would be opposed to the establishing of a library and in fact it is hard to see how any citizen who has given the matter any consideration could be opposed to it.

Wilmington needs a public library, has needed one long and it is a shame that she has not got one. It is to be hoped that the aldermen will grasp this opportunity and not let it ever be said again that Wilmington has no public library of any description.

It is understood that some of the merchants have been circulating a petition to be presented to the board tomorrow night to keep the Naval Reserves from holding a carnival in this city during the present month. The objection, it is said, is that the carnival will carry away too much money.

FINE FINISH

Whirlwind Close to a Remarkable Presidential Campaign.

POLL OF PAPERS

Brooklyn Eagle's Figures From Its Final Poll Indicate a Parker Plurality in New York State of 75,421. New York Herald's Poll Indicates That Roosevelt Will Have 264 Votes and Parker 159 in the Electoral College, With Several States Classed as Doubtful—The Sensational Charges of Judge Parker, With the Dramatic Reply of the President, and Judge Parker's Speech Last Night Give a Novel and Exciting Close to the Campaign—Issues Upon Which the Campaign Has Been Fought.

New York, Nov. 5.—With a sensational and dramatic exchange of charges and replies between the candidates, one of the most remarkable presidential campaigns of recent times was practically brought to a close tonight. It is not expected that much more of importance will take place before the election, though a few belated meetings will be held and some statements and claims may be issued.

The whirlwind finish predicted two months ago has been realized. The unusual features of a candidate attacking his interest in office and forcing him into making a direct reply, followed by a rejoinder from the candidate, is a novelty and furnished the main topic of conversation where politics was discussed today.

The appearance of Judge Parker upon the public platform marked an epoch in the political campaign of 1904, for up to that time it had been apathetic and uninteresting. From his first speech to the last he has been growing more and more vigorous, and more direct in his assertion, to the station of the democrats who have clamored for more life and vigor in the canvass.

The republican canvass also lacked interest until cabinet officers, senators and men close to the president began making replies to Judge Parker's charges, but their part in it was insignificant compared to the bomb exploded by Mr. Roosevelt in his statement this morning.

Up to within three weeks of the election the campaign was remarkable for its apathy and the seeming lack of interest which the voters were taking in the canvass. There were many meetings, but as a rule, they were not largely attended, nor did the people show the intense interest that has marked other campaigns. There has been also an absence of monster meetings, all-day parades, theatrical display, noise and red fire that have characterized the closing days of former campaigns.

Interwoven closely with the presidential canvass has been the campaign of New York state. For many years the pivotal state, the arbiter of presidential elections, the Empire State this year has been regarded as absolutely essential to the success of one party, and has been believed to be necessary to the other, because of the impression that a public sentiment which will carry New York will carry the country. In some localities the state fight overshadowed that of the national contest, and the latter is regarded as the auxiliary instead of the principal in the campaign. State issues have been put forward most prominently in New York, New Jersey, West Virginia and Wisconsin which were classed as doubtful on the presidency.

The issues upon which the campaign have been fought have changed. The personality of the president and his public acts, the policy of the republican party on the several questions before the people formed the basis of democratic attack and republican defense. The money issue of 1896 and 1898 did not appear, the tariff has figured to some extent, but the all-absorbing question and the one which made a whirlwind finish possible was the attitude of the democratic candidate regarding the trusts and corporations and the continued assaults upon the chairman of the republican national committee, Judge Parker made this issue the issue of his party and forced the letter of defense from his opponent.

What others have said or may say and what managers may claim or deny, all goes for nothing in the face of the remarkable spectacle of the two presidential candidates, closing in contest with public utterances of such vigor and directness that no one can mistake their meaning.

The Brooklyn Eagle last Sunday published a poll which indicated Parker's plurality in Greater New York as 182,022, and Herriek's in the same

(Continued on Fifth Page.)

(Continued on Fifth Page.)